



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: April 13, 2006

Editorial Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.

Administrative Business

Chair Harvey Klein (GSL) called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Vini Bandeira (Precision Testing Labs) made a motion to accept the March meeting minutes, seconded by Mark Feitelson (Precision Analytical Services) and the minutes were approved.

Subcommittee Reports

Laboratory Certification Program: Rachel Werner (NJDEP-OQA) stated renewals were due March 31st. If applications and fees were not received, certification will not be renewed by July 1st.

PT program: Rachel Werner stated Solid & Hazardous Waste aqueous samples will be sent on 4/17/06; solids will be sent 4/24/06. Water Pollution PT fees are due 4/17/06 (if check is in the mail, copy of check or PO must be faxed). Drinking water failure notices will be sent soon.

NIST is resigning as the Performance Testing Oversight Board as of September 30, 2006. A2LA will now be certifying PT providers. Harvey Klein (GSL) commented that if the PT provider is not A2LA approved, a lab cannot use their PTs for State Certification.

NELAC/INELA Update: No Update

NJQL's: The OQA proposal is under attorney review.

Bioassay: No report

Sludge (Biosolids): No report

Communications and OQA Website: Harvey Klein reported the last update on the webpage is January 2006. Rachel Werner will look into updating the webpage.

Old Business

PWTA Update: Harvey Klein (GSL) stated the drinking water round table was held March 17th. Subjects covered included the new reporting formats for PWTA data. The implementation date is May 1st. All labs must apply for a Pin # prior to submitting data. DEP has received 45,000 submissions under the PWTA. The new database will allow a more thorough review of the data.

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: Harvey Klein (GSL) stated that Water Companies would eventually be encouraged to submit data in the new E2 format. Commercial laboratories will submit the data directly to the DEP. Commercial labs with multiple water systems (non-community/non-transient) will need signature approval from each user before direct reporting to DEP. Private water systems can complete their own forms. For Non-Community public water systems, by regulation, the lab must complete the forms. Prior to submission by the lab, the public water system must approve the data system. Mark Feitelson (Precision Analytical Services) commented that “if data is submitted electronically the water company does not have the opportunity to approve the data and if problems occur (failures, non submission, etc.) the water company is responsible for the fine not the lab. The water company is dependent upon the timely and accurate submission of data by the lab.” Laura Vancho (NJ American Water) asked how long paper submissions would be allowed. Harvey Klein (GSL) stated always. Laura asked for guidelines regarding water company review of lab data submissions, if there is a procedure in place for addressing discrepancies, and if the database could be used to obtain CCR data.

Site Remediation/NJ Groundwater Quality Standards: Mary Anne Kuserk (NJDEP Site Remediation) commented that the Final draft of the FAQ for the GWQS should be finished in 2 weeks. Mary Anne requested feedback from the ELAC GWQS subcommittee. Rufus Onibanjo (Trenton Sewer Utility) asked if the GWQS were being enforced by the NJDEP. Mary Anne stated “for Base neutral contaminants with low PQLs (such as PAHs) the use of EPA Method 625 and the associated PQLs are acceptable at this time. The SRWMP is currently finalizing the Frequently Asked Questions which will outline the Department’s policy for the sampling and analysis of these constituents. The goal is for all samples to be analyzed to the applicable PQL.”

Mike Lordson (APL) asked when 418.1 for TPH will be eliminated. Rachel Werner (NJDEP-OQA) stated no new update from the Department. Mike further asked what will replace 418.1. Harvey Klein (GSL) referred to Dr. Mike Miller’s 10/31 2005 draft guidance memo.

Mike Lordson requested the DEP furnish data regarding the TBA PQL of 2 PPB.

New Business: The WEA Conference is the week of May 1st at the Tropicana. Vinny Marfinsky (JMEUC) stated Tuesday is the lab day. Topics to be covered include Lab update, PT update, and field samples.

Lab Certification Fee Proposal: Rachel Werner (NJDEP-OQA) stated it is still under review. A comparison of other states shows a very wide range of fees.

There were not any other new issues. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for 09:30 AM on May 11, 2006 – 5th Floor Conference Room.

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All visitors should be prepared to verify their identification.